



USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office
Herman Ellison, State Statistician
P.O. Box 1659
Richmond, Virginia 23218-1659
(804) 771-2493 or 1-800-772-0670
Email: nass-va@nass.usda.gov

In Cooperation with:

Virginia Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services
Sandra Adams, Commissioner

RELEASED: September 12, 2016

Dry August Points to Decreased Peanut Yield

RICHMOND, Va. – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released its crop production report today from the September Agricultural Yield Survey conducted at the beginning of the month.

“Peanut production is forecast at 66 million pounds,” according to Herman Ellison, Virginia state statistician. “That’s down 15 percent from the August forecast and 10 percent from last year.”

Peanut farmers in **Virginia** expect a yield of 3,300 pounds per acre, down 550 pounds from 2015. Acres expected to be harvested total 20,000 acres, up 1,000 from last year.

“It’s disappointing that it was so dry in August,” Ellison said. “The peanut crop was looking better than average on Aug. 1, but there just wasn’t enough moisture to maintain the yield potential.”

Corn production in **Virginia** is forecast at 53.4 million bushels, up four percent from the August forecast and up 11 percent from the previous crop. Yield was estimated at 157 bushels per acre, up six bushels from last month but down four bushels from the 2015 level. Acres for harvest as grain were estimated at 340,000 acres, up 40,000 acres from 2015. The **U.S.** corn production is forecast at 15.1 billion bushels, down slightly from the August forecast and up 11 percent from last year’s record production. Based on conditions as of Sept. 1, yields are expected to average 174.4 bushels per acre, down 0.7 bushels from last month but up six bushels from 2015. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 86.6 million acres, unchanged from the August forecast but up seven percent from 2015.

Soybean production for **Virginia** is forecast at 22.8 million bushels, down seven percent from the August forecast but up seven percent from 2015. Yield was estimated at 38 bushels per acre, down three bushels from last month but up 3.5 bushels from a year ago. Acreage for harvest as beans was estimated at 600,000 acres, down 20,000 acres from the previous year. **U.S.** soybean production is forecast at 4.2 billion bushels, up three percent from the August forecast and up seven percent from last year. Based on Sept. 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 50.6 bushels per acre, up 1.7 bushels from last month and up 2.6 bushels from last year. Area for harvest is forecast at 83 million acres, unchanged from the August forecast but up one percent from 2015.

Virginia cotton production is projected to be 110,000 bales, down 34 percent from the August forecast and down 23 percent from last year. Cotton yields are forecast to average 733 pounds per acre, down 282 pounds from last month and down 84 pounds per acre from the previous year. Producers expect to harvest 72,000 acres, down 7,000 acres from the August forecast and down 12,000 acres from 2015. **U.S.** cotton production was

forecast at 16.1 million bales, up two percent from the August forecast and up 25 percent from 2015. Yields are forecast to average 802 pounds per acre, up two pounds from last month and up 36 pounds from last year. Harvested acreage is estimated at 9.66 million acres, up one percent from the August forecast and up 20 percent from the previous year.

Virginia flue-cured tobacco production is forecast at 50.4 million pounds, unchanged from the August forecast and up two percent from 2015. Yield was projected at 2,400 pounds per acre, unchanged from last month and up 100 pounds from the 2015 crop. Harvested acreage was estimated at 21,000 acres, down 500 acres from last year's crop. For the **flue-cured producing states** production is forecast at 474 million pounds, down slightly from the August forecast and down two percent from last year. Flue-cured growers plan to harvest 213,000 acres, down three percent from 2015. Yields were expected to average 2,226 pounds per acre, up 16 pounds from last year.

Production of **Virginia dark fire-cured** tobacco is forecast at 550,000 pounds, down four percent from the previous year. **Burley** tobacco production is forecast at 2.34 million pounds, down three percent from last year.

CROP PRODUCTION SUMMARY, September 1
VIRGINIA AND UNITED STATES

Crops	Area Planted ¹		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre			Production	
	2015	2016	2015	2016 ²	2015	2016		2015	2016
						Aug 1 ¹	Sep 1 ²		
VIRGINIA									
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(bushels)	(bushels)	(bushels)	(1,000 bushels)	(1,000 bushels)
Barley ³⁴	46	35	16	18	75.0	64.0	--	1,200	1,152
Corn ³	450	490	300	340	161.0	151.0	157.0	48,300	53,380
Soybeans ³	630	610	620	600	34.5	41.0	38.0	21,390	22,800
Wheat, Winter ³⁴	260	220	210	175	66.0	55.0	--	13,860	9,625
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)
Cotton ⁵	85	73	84	72	817	1,015	733	143	110
Peanuts	19	21	19	20	3,850	3,900	3,300	73,150	66,000
	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)
Tobacco:									
All	--	--	23,050	22,450	2,275	2,374	2,374	52,430	53,290
Burley	--	--	1,300	1,200	1,850	1,950	1,950	2,405	2,340
Dark Fire-Cured	--	--	250	250	2,300	2,200	2,200	575	550
Flue-Cured	--	--	21,500	21,000	2,300	2,400	2,400	49,450	50,400
UNITED STATES									
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(bushels)	(bushels)	(bushels)	(1,000 bushels)	(1,000 bushels)
Barley ³⁴	3,558	2,967	3,109	2,578	68.9	73.6	--	214,297	189,652
Corn ³	87,999	94,148	80,749	86,550	168.4	175.1	174.4	13,601,198	15,092,908
Soybeans ³	82,650	83,688	81,814	83,037	48.0	48.9	50.6	3,929,160	4,200,985
Wheat, Winter ³⁴	39,461	36,538	32,257	30,176	42.5	54.9	--	1,370,188	1,657,440
	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(1,000 acres)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)
Cotton ⁵	8,581	10,145	8,075	9,655	766	800	802	12,888	16,142
Peanuts	1,625	1,672	1,567	1,587	3,963	3,990	4,044	6,210,590	6,417,800
	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(1,000 pounds)	(1,000 pounds)
Tobacco:									
All	--	--	328,650	318,150	2,178	2,184	2,159	715,946	686,910
Burley	--	--	78,900	78,900	1,834	1,900	1,848	144,675	145,770
Dark Fire-Cured	--	--	17,850	17,150	3,144	2,822	2,680	56,125	45,970
Flue-Cured	--	--	220,000	213,000	2,210	2,226	2,226	486,250	474,150

¹ Commodities with estimates not available are denoted by "--". ² Forecasted. ³ Area harvested represents grain. ⁴ Includes area planted in preceding fall. ⁵ Production in 480-lb. net weight bales. U.S. production includes American-Pima cotton.

